Parent Forum meeting Thursday 20th September 2018

Present: 8 parents, Headteacher, 1 Governor

Mrs Brooke welcomed the parents and started by talking about writing across the school.

Talk for Writng

 She explained the Talk for Writing initiative which is now being used across the school. She explained about the expectations that exist for writing, including for Reception children, and that children have to meet all the criteria rather than a best fit model as used before. She described the three week process covering a genre of writing saying that children start with a cold writing task to establish what they know and to inform the teacher, then work on any gaps in their knowledge before doing a hot task at the end using the skills they have learnt. She recommended that parents look up Pie Corbett. The children should benefit hugely from this style of teaching writing.

Maths No Problem

It was felt that the meeting at the start of term was very useful. It appears that some parents did not get the text about the meeting. Mrs Brooke apologised and said that this was due to problems with SIMS.

Mrs Brooke asked if everyone felt happy and settled at the start of the school year and then was general consensus that this was so. One parent felt that the transition to Y1 is still tricky because of the expectations but parents also said that Mrs Da Silva was great. Mrs Brooke also mentioned the huge positive impact the new outside area had made and how well it was being used. She said that there was still some work to be done like the painting of a hundred square and a blank number line. She also said that the fence had been moved so that a small pond could be created.

Seahorses

The question was raised about the shut door of Seahorses at drop off time and some parents felt there wasn’t the opportunity to speak to the class teacher as they didn’t want to interrupt. Mrs Brooke said that it was perfectly fine to go in but that she would see about wedging the door open at drop off time to make the classroom feel more accessible.

On the subject of communication, Mrs Brooke asked if parents were happy not to have communication books any more which they were. One parent mentioned that a parent she knows who works and is unable to get to school herself, uses a sticky label on her child’s jumper if there is a message she needs to the teacher.

Parents asked if Mrs Brooke had had a response to her request for a contract lawyer. She explained the problem over the photocopier contract and one parent may be able to help.

Mrs Brooke mentioned that she is still investigating the slide project. She said that at the fire drill practice last week, there was a bottle neck getting out of school. There is the 5 year fire safety check due in Spring.

The owner of the ponies in the field adjacent to the playground have requested that the pine tree is cut down.

The meeting closed at 9. 45.